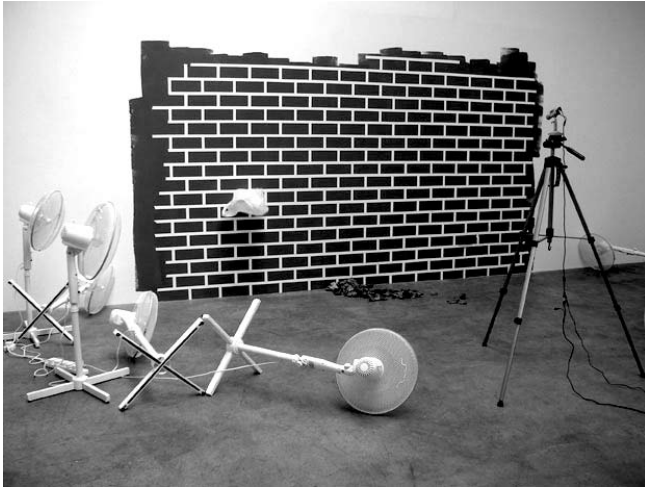


(November 25 - December 7)

2— The Front Room

IAN BURNS



Ian Burns's kinetic dioramas have engaged with subjects as diverse as the war in Iraq, TV culture, colonialism, and art history. Using primitive electronics, household appliances, and other assorted junk, Burns creates convoluted mechanisms that produce a moving image on a screen, from live video feed to shadow-play. Also described as closed-circuit kinetic sculptures, his live-feed digital audio and video footage often simulates dramatic cinematic technique. Elaborate and darkly humorous, Burns's assemblages directly explore how images are constructed and how they are consumed.

In *The Front Room*, Burns presents *A Poor Excuse*, an installation in three parts that considers the complexities of spectatorship, spatial experience, and the filmic frame. Mimicking the (in)famous "plastic-bag scene" from Sam Mendes' *American Beauty* (1999), Burns deconstructs the celebrated, high-production and multi-layered shot to reveal at once the pathetic or banal realities of filmic illusion, but also our desire for the phenomenologic experience.

(November 25 - December 7)

Ian Burns has exhibited extensively with more than 35 international shows in the past few years. Recent exhibitions include The Dell Gallery, Griffith University, Brisbane; the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main; Espacio Minimo, Madrid; and Hilger Contemporary, Vienna. Notably, Burns's work has been included in major survey exhibitions such as *New York: States of Mind* at The House of World Cultures, Berlin, and the Queens Museum of Art, New York; *StereoVision* at the University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum; *The Torino Triennale (2005)* and *Greater New York (2005)* at P.S.1, New York in 2005. His work has recently been acquired for the collections of the Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt am Main; The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney. He is represented by Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York, and Mother's Tankstation, Dublin.

Image:

A Poor Excuse, 2008

6 fans, leaves, plastic bag,
painted wall, two two-stage live-
feed videos, projector, and dolls
Dimensions variable
Courtesy of the artist and
Mother's Tankstation, Dublin

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